Middle Potomac Tributary Team

January 15, 2003

About the Watershed:

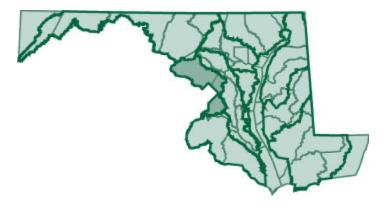
The Middle Potomac Watershed drains approximately 610 miles of land across portions of Montgomery and Prince George's Counties. Major tributaries in the watershed include the Anacostia River and Seneca. Rock and Piscataway Creeks. The watershed is highly urbanized with more than 100 species of fish living in its freshwater and brackish water streams, including white and yellow perch, largemouth bass, and catfish. Due to the watershed's urbanized character, the Middle Potomac Tributary Team focuses on environmental policy issues directed at restoring and reducing the impacts of urbanization on the watershed and its tributaries.

About the Team:

The mission of the Middle Potomac Tributary Team is to reduce nutrient and sediment inputs and to restore habitat in the Middle Potomac Watershed through community participation. The primary focus of the team in 2002 was the revision of the Tributary Strategies, particularly wastewater, urban stormwater, agriculture, and outreach and education aspects. The team's



The Middle Potomac Team's 2002 Farm Tour gave participants an opportunity to learn about agricultural nutrient reduction practices.



perspective is that even though load allocations are not officially set, there are numerous areas where the Tributary Teams can make policy recommendations and help frame the issues regarding the format and content of the revised Tributary Strategies.

Topics that the team expects to address in 2003 include load allocations and associated equity issues, implementation of the strategies and funding possibilities, reconciliation of the voluntary Tributary Strategies process with the regulatory total maximum daily load (TMDL) permitting process, and the non-water quality aspects of the Tributary Strategies that Maryland may wish to include (i.e., forest cover and wetland goals).

Recent Accomplishments:

- On December 3, 2001, team members participated in the signing of the Builders for the Bay Agreement, which was also signed by the National Association of Home Builders, the Center for Watershed Protection, and the Alliance for the Chesapeake Bay.
- * In 2002, the Middle Potomac Tributary
 Team worked with Maryland's Tributary
 Strategies Development Workgroup to
 revise the Tributary Strategies. The team
 used several of its monthly meetings to
 prepare periodic recommendations to the
 workgroup on technical and policy matters.

- * Team members planted a rain garden in March 2002 with the Potomac Conservancy and the Audubon Naturalist Society to educate Chevy Chase homeowners about native landscaping.
- On Earth Day 2002, the team coordinated an Anacostia River Clean-Up to educate and engage local citizens and elected officials in the restoration of their river.
- * The team helped plan and facilitate the first Potomac Shared Strategies Conference in November 2002. Representatives from the four states that make up the Potomac Watershed attended this conference and participated in a highly productive discussion about interstate solutions to improving water quality in the Potomac River.

For More Information:

For more information, contact Claudia Donegan, team coordinator, at 410-260-8768. You can also visit the program's website at www.dnr.state.md.us/bay/tribstrat/.



The Middle Potomac Team's Annual Fish-In, held during the month of June, helps engage local citizens in the restoration and protection of their local watershed.

Team Members

Edward "Ted" Graham, Chair, Washington Council of Governments

Carlton Haywood, Vice-Chair, ICPRB

Steve Bieber, State Contact, MD Dept. of the Environment

Richard Alper, Citizen

Nazir Baig, Maryland NCPPC, Montgomery County Robert Boone, Anacostia Watershed Society

Bill Bowen, Citizen

Sandra Burk, Potomac Conservancy

Collin Burrell, D.C. Dept. of Health/ Env. Admin.

Mow-Soung Cheng, Prince George's County

Gary Felton, University of Maryland

Stephen Hannibal-Lockley, Citizen

Cy Jones, Wash. Suburban Sanitary Commission

Bill Kennedy, MD National Capital Bldg Industry

David Lake, Montgomery Dept. of Environmental Protection

George Lechlider, Maryland Farm Bureau Ed Merrifield. Sierra Club

Matt Mulder, Acokeek Foundation

Daniel Nees, University of Maryland, Environmental Finance Center

Marshall Rea, Montgomery Soil Conservation
District

Pamela Rowe, City of Rockville

Greg Ryberg, City of Gaithersburg

Steve Shofar, Washington Suburban Sanitary Commission

J.G.Warfield, US Dept. of Agriculture Cameron Wiegand, Montgomery Dept. of Environmental Protection

Team Participants

Matt Berres, Potomac Conservancy
Chris Chopin, Environmental Quality Resources
John Clarke, Elm Street Development
Cynthia Hannibal, Citizen
Honorable John Hurson, MD House of Delegates
Ron LaCoss, Citizen
Steve Nardella, Winchester Homes
David Plummer, MD Dept. of Natural Resources
Dr. Linda Silversmith, Citizen

Bill Spicer, Naval Surface Warfare Center Megan Turnock, Citizen

Mark Zerniak, Citizen

Team Coordinator

Claudia Donegan, MD Dept. of Natural Resources